

GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY
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OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST OPTION:

An Occupational Therapist may use the occupational therapy program transcript as documentation for 54 of the total hours and certify that the occupational therapy program included at least 54 hours of content related to the required topic areas such as physics, physiology, treatment guidelines, patient education and documentation. The Occupational Therapist must list and document at least 36 specific hours of content that directly relate to the specific theories and practical application of physical agent modalities.

Occupational therapist assistants are not eligible for this option and must document the entire 90 contact hours.

NEW * UPDATED FOR OTA's * NEW

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT OPTION:

An OTA may use college transcripts as documentation for completion of 8 hours in Anatomy & Physiology, 8 hours in Chemistry and 8 hours in Physics. An OTA must document a mandatory requirement of at least 36 hours of preparatory continuing education coursework and a mandatory 15 hours of clinical application of modality by a modality certified instructor with a completed check form as related to the specific theories of physical agent modalities.

REQUIRED TOPIC AREAS:

The law requires 90 contact hours of instruction that covers nine specific topics for occupational therapist and occupational therapy assistants that wish to be certified to use physical agent modalities. No less than 36 of these 90 contact hours must be directly related to the specific theories and practical application of physical agent modalities. The nine specific topics are:

- A Principles of physics related to specific properties of light, water and temperature, sound or electricity, as indicated by selected modality;
- B Physiological, neurophysiological and electrophysiological changes, as indicated, which occur as a result of the application of the selected modality;
- C The response of normal and abnormal tissue to the application of the modality;
- D Indications and contraindications related to the selection and application of the modality;
- E The guidelines for treatment or administration of the modality within the philosophical framework of occupational therapy;
- F The guidelines for educating the patient including instructing the patient to process and possible outcomes of treatment, including risks and benefits;
- G Safety rules and precautions related to the selected modality;
- H Methods of documenting the effectiveness of immediate and long-term effects of treatment; and
- I Characteristics of the equipment including safe operation, adjustment and care of the equipment.